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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/613,139	07/03/2003	Mu-Tsang Lin	24061.70	6821
27683	7590	10/06/2006	EXAMINER	
HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP 901 MAIN STREET, SUITE 3100 DALLAS, TX 75202			GUTIERREZ, ANTHONY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2857	

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/613,139

Applicant(s)

LIN ET AL.

Examiner

Anthony Gutierrez

Art Unit

2857

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Berg et al. (United States Patent Application Publication US 2002/0022969 A1).

The Examiner maintains (see "Response to Arguments" below) that in addition to each figure representing a single embodiment on its own, the invention in the reference is arranged in the following separate embodiments with respect to the figures:

A:	1,2,3	B:	1,2,4	C:	5,6,9
D:	5,7,9	E:	5,8,9		

The Examiner has indicated with respect to each rejected section, which embodiments of the reference are relied on.

As to claims 1, 9, and 17, Berg et al. discloses providing information to repair a semiconductor tool, the method comprising (see Abstract): receiving a tool alarm when a tool problem occurs (lines 1-6); upon receipt of the tool alarm, providing tool alarm information to a database to determine a problem, cause, and action (lines 6-13); checking if the tool alarm information matches an item in a standard operation procedures table of the database (lines 13 and 14); if the tool alarm information matches an item in the table, providing standard operation procedures information to

Art Unit: 2857

a tool alarm message; and sending the tool alarm message to a remote terminal for use in repairing the semiconductor tool (lines 14-17). (ABSTRACT ALONE)

As to claims 2-6, Berg et al. discloses the database further includes tables for providing routine maintenance information for the specified semiconductor tool and for providing a predetermined operating procedure for maintaining the specified semiconductor tool, including instructions for identifying maintenance actions to be performed on the specified semiconductor tool (paragraph 0041, lines 15-42).

(ABSTRACT and C)

As to claim 7, Berg et al. discloses sending the identified cause and action information to a mobile terminal (paragraph 0041, lines 4-9 and lines 26-32) (ABSTRACT and C)

As to claims 8, and 10-12, Berg et al. discloses checking if the tool alarm information matches an item in a requirements table of the database based on pre-collected knowledge about the semiconductor tool; if the tool alarm information matches an item in the requirements table, providing requirements information to the message, including determining a problem, cause, and action associated with the tool alarm information by searching a problem tree, cause tree and action tree in the database; and providing problem, cause, and action information to the message (paragraphs 0029, 0035) (ABSTRACT and A)

As to claims 13 and 14, Berg et al. discloses updating the database with experiential knowledge provided from a plurality of different entities working on the semiconductor tool (paragraph 0036) (ABSTRACT and A)

As to claims 15 and 16, Berg et al. discloses updating the database with manufacture knowledge provided from one or more manufacture or repair facilities associated with the semiconductor tool (paragraph 0008) (ABSTRACT and single summarized aspect)

As to claims 18 and 19, Berg et al. discloses at least one group for software problems, including a subgroup for automatic control system problems, and another group for temperature-related problems (paragraph 0023, lines 8-11 and paragraph 0026 where the SCADA system is related to the software problems, as distinguished from the individual equipment unit). (ABSTRACT and A)

As to claims 20 and 23-25, Berge et al. discloses at least one group for software problems, and another group for temperature-related problems, the group for temperature-related problems including a subgroup for valve obstructions (paragraphs 0042, lines 7-12) (ABSTRACT and D)

As to claim 21, Berg et al. discloses a subgroup for user-defined problems (paragraph 0046, lines 1-7). (ABSTRACT and D)

As to claim 22, Berg et al. discloses addressing statistical process control problems (paragraph 0044 and Fig. 5). (ABSTRACT and D)

As to claims 26-28, Berg et al. discloses a subgroup related to routine valve maintenance actions, including a subgroup related to recently added valve maintenance actions, including an interface for receiving a plurality of valve maintenance actions from a maintenance entity that previously worked on the semiconductor tool, including the recently added valve maintenance actions (paragraphs 0042 and 46). (ABSTRACT and D).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-28 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

The Examiner disagrees with Applicant's embodiment distinctions.

The Examiner considers Figure 1 to be an embodiment of system architecture. Figure 2 is an embodiment of a component of that architecture and Figure 3 is an embodiment of a method using that architecture and component. Thus Figures 1-3 are all part of the same embodiment (consistent with Applicant's position).

Although Figure 4 is an alternative embodiment of the method of Figure 3, Figure 4 along with architectural Figures 1 and 2 form a second embodiment.

Analogously, Figure 5 is an alternative embodiment of system architecture; Figure 9 is an alternative embodiment of a component of the system architecture and Figures 6-8 are each alternative embodiments of methods using the system architecture of Figure 5, with the component of Figure 9. Therefore embodiments A-E are understood as indicated above, A and B regarding alternative methods for use with the system architecture of Figure 1 (and the component in Figure 2) and C-D regarding alternative methods for use with the system architecture of Figure 5 (and the component in Figure 9).

The Examiner maintains that the Abstract is general to specific embodiments A-E.

All rejections have been revised to rely either on the Abstract alone, the Abstract and a single embodiment A-E, or the Abstract and a single summarized aspect of the present invention.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

United States Patent Application Publications

US 2005/0047645 A1 to Funk et al. teaches a GUI for managing a web-based semiconductor processing system.

US 2004/0267399 A1 to Funk, teaches a system for wafer-to-wafer control in a semiconductor processing system that uses feedforward and feedback information.

US 2004/0243256 A1 to Willis et al. teaches a method of using an APC system to perform data pre-population function in which the APC system is coupled to a processing element.

US 2004/0185583 A1 to Tomoyasu et al., teaches a method of operating system for chemical oxide removal using pre-process meteorology data.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony Gutierrez whose telephone number is (571) 272-2215. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

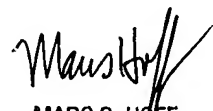
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc Hoff can be reached on (571) 272-2216. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2857

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Anthony Gutierrez

9/25/06


MARC S. HOFF
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800